# COMMANDERS DIGEST

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## New Service Deposits Plan Surpasses Old in 7th Month

The new Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program has surpassed in seven months of operation the old Soldier's, Sailor's and Airman's Deposit program.

Defense officials said $79,495,839 were deposited in the new program at the end of March. At its peak, the old program deposits reached $60 million.

Officials attribute success of the new program to a 10 percent quarterly compounded interest rate and to the eligibility of officers to participate. The old program had a straight four percent interest rate.

Some 43,000 servicemen in Vietnam account for $26.5 million of the total new deposits.

The worldwide number of accounts is 113,110 with 83,796 of these enlisted and 29,314 officers.

## AF Announces Reassignment For Six General Officers

President Johnson has announced new positions for six Air Force generals who have been nominated for promotion.

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Gerrity will become Commander, Air Force Logistics Command, Aug. 1, replacing Gen. Kenneth B. Hobson, who is retiring. Gen. Gerrity has been Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Systems and Logistics and Senior Air Force Member Military Staff Committee, United Nations.

Also on Aug. 1, Maj. Gen. Robert G. Ruegg will assume Gen. Gerrity's former position as DCS, Systems and Logistics, and Maj. Gen. Jack J. Catton will become Air Force DCS, Programs and Resources. Gen. Ruegg is Gen. Gerrity's assistant. Gen. Catton is Director of Aerospace Programs, DCS, Programs and Resources.

Scheduled to assume new positions July 1 are Maj. Gen. John W. O'Neill as Commander, Space and Missile Systems Organization, Air Force Systems Command, and Maj. Gen. Earl C. Hedlund, Director, Defense Supply Agency, of which he has been deputy. Gen. O'Neill has been Commander, Electronics Systems Division, AFSC.

Maj. Gen. John C. Meyer, who has been Vice Director, Joint Staff, Joint Chiefs of Staff, assumed Director of Operations, J-3, Joint Staff, JCS, May 16.

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*HONORED GUEST—Lt. Gen. James H. Polk (left), new Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, troops the line with his honored guest, Adm. John S. McCain, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Navy Europe, who also assumed his command recently. Commander of the honor guard in Heidelberg, Germany, is Army Capt. Ronald S. Durian.*

## Prime, Backup Crews Named For First Manned Apollo

Three Navy and two Air Force officers, and a civilian have been named as prime and backup crews for the first Apollo manned flight scheduled early next year from Cape Kennedy.

Announcement was made by NASA Administrator James E. Webb in testimony before the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences.

Prime crew for the first Apollo mission are astronauts Capt. Walter M. Schirra Jr., USN, Walter Cunningham, and Maj. Donn F. Eisele, USAF. Backup crew consists of Cdr. Eugene A. Cernan, USN, Lt. Col. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF, and Cdr. John W. Young, USN.

NASA said the purpose of the "open-ended" flight of up to 10 days will be to check out performance of spacecraft systems and crew operations.

Recovery will be in the western Atlantic Ocean, about 800 miles southeast of Bermuda.

The modules will be boosted into Earth orbit by an uprated Saturn I vehicle.

# Washington Memos

UNITED STATES' NEWEST aircraft carrier, America, was presented with coveted Battle Efficiency "E" Award by VAdm. C. T. Booth, Commander, Naval Air Force, Atlantic Fleet. Navy Fighter Squadron 102, stationed aboard America with Carrier Air Wing 6, also won Battle "E" Award for fighter squadrons.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS nominated Army Maj. Gen. Claire Hutchin Jr., Dep CofS, Plans and Operations, PACOM, for three stars and assignment as CofS, PACOM. He succeeds Air Force Lt. Gen. Paul S. Emrick, who retires July 1.

RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION in helicopter development has earned Air Force's Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service the Grover E. Bell Award. ARRS was cited for developing in-flight refueling techniques for helicopters that have extended the range of the aircraft. Tanker aircraft are used to refuel the helicopters. Award was originated by Lawrence D. Bell in honor of his brother, an aviator who was killed in an aircraft accident in 1913.

VISIT BY SECRETARY of the Navy Paul H. Nitze was kick-off highlight of "Royal Road," third large-scale First Fleet exercise of 1967, which began May 15 and ends May 22. Secretary Nitze visited VAdm. B. F. Roeder at sea aboard his flagship, guided missile cruiser USS Chicago, May 16. Exercise involves 20 U.S. ships, 3 Canadian vessels and 13 U.S. aircraft commands, conducting anti-submarine warfare, air and strike warfare and missile firing training.

FIRST OF THIRTY-NINE A-37A attack aircraft for close air support for ground forces has been delivered to the Air Force's Tactical Air Command at England AFB, La. Aircraft will be used for pilot training.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS for women college graduates and seniors seeking commission in U.S. Marine Corps through Women Officer Candidates Course has been extended to June 1. Nine-week course begins June 20 at Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va.

U.S. STRIKE COMMAND will conduct large-scale field training activity in August. Exercise Kitty Hawk will involve approximately 70,000 Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine combat personnel in two opposing joint task forces. Exercise area covers about 5.8 million acres of eastern and northern North Carolina.

ARMY SECRETARY HAS appointed Lt. Col. Anna Mae Hays as Chief, Army Nurse Corps, succeeding Col. Mildred I. Clark, who retires with 30 years' service Aug. 1. Col. Hays, presently enrolled in graduate work at Catholic University of America, will receive full colonel promotion and assume new post Sept. 1.

TACTICAL AIR COMMAND has established resident liaison office at Headquarters Seventh Air Force, Tan Son Nhut, AB, Vietnam. Purpose of office is exchange of information pertaining to weapon and support systems in being and those programmed for tactical use. Prime objective of office is to provide improved response by TAC in resolution of technical problems, equipment modifications, tactics and training support for air forces in Southeast Asia.

MARINE CORPS HEADQUARTERS is seeking applications from retired Marine officers and enlisted personnel to fill instructor billets at eight additional Marine Corps Junior ROTC units to be activated this September. Applications, sent to Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AF), Washington, D.C. 20380, should include civilian employment since retirement, area in which applicant desires employment as instructor, civilian education since retirement, and a full-length photograph. Selection will be made on competitive basis. Selectees will receive full pay and allowances for grade or rank held at retirement.

ARMY MISSILE COMMAND has awarded a $2.05 million contract for development of an Extended Range Lance (XRL) missile to Missiles and Space Division-Michigan facility, LTV Aerospace Corp. Contract calls for extending range of missile by making minor modifications to existing weapon system's configuration. Both Lance versions will use same ground support equipment.

ARMY SELECTION BOARD will meet about June 6 to recommend appointments as permanent brigadier general, Dental Corps. All permanent Dental Corps colonels as of May 31, 1966, are eligible and will be considered.

KC-135 CREW MEMBERS of the 93rd Air Refueling Sq., Castle AFB, Calif., recently off-loaded 160,000 pounds of fuel in two transfers of 80,000 pounds each. This is as much fuel as a KC-135 Stratotanker normally carries on takeoff.

MACV COMMANDER REPORTS that more than 5,000 Army personnel have extended their Vietnam tours from Dec. 16, 1966 through March 31, 1967. These extensions were under Public Law 89-735, authorizing these six-month extendees a special 30-day leave.

THIS SUMMER, MEMBERS of the 4500th Special Aerial Spray Flight, Langley AFB, Va., plan to assist the National Communicable Disease Center. They will participate in a study of aerial application of insecticide against mosquito carriers of encephalitis. TAC C-123 Providers will spray four communities near Lubbock, Tex. The weekly spraying will run from mid-June through mid-August.

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# Form 1580 Now Mandatory For Airline Furlough Fares

Commanders are being urged to brief their personnel as soon as possible that domestic airlines in the U.S. now require servicemen seeking reduced furlough fares to have in their possession completed and signed DD Forms 1580, as well as leave orders.

Without Form 1580, servicemen will find it impossible to obtain reduced fare tickets. Airline ticket counter personnel use the form to validate a wide range of leave and pass categories including emergency leave.

Use of the form is required only for airline furlough tickets, not full price fares. It is not required by railroads and bus lines. The form is not a substitute for leave or pass documents which may also be required. It is a companion paper to satisfy administrative routine of domestic airlines.

Transportation officials said difficulties have occurred at commercial airports throughout the country, as personnel from all services have been requesting furlough rates without Form 1580, manadatory since May 1.

Pentagon officials asked commanders to emphasize these points in briefing their personnel about air travel at furlough rates:

- Individual serviceman must initiate request for DD Form 1580 since mode of travel is his personal choice.
- Serviceman is responsible for obtaining sufficient copies to cover every leg of his trip both ways; in any case a minimum of five copies.
- Local printing of forms is authorized in case of short supply.
- While the certifying officer is usually the leave-granting authority, forms can also be validated by transportation, personnel or administrative officers.
- Certifying officers may use facsimile signature as a result of a May 8 change by DOD.

Details were first spelled out in DOD Instruction 1336.4 of Nov. 21, 1966, which incorporates the May 8 memo change.

# Marine Commandant Cites Work Of Combined Action Platoons in RVN

Some 70 "combined action platoons" are doing so well in Vietnam that the Marine Corps plans to form more of these Marine-Militiamen pacification units, according to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

"Not one village under a combined action platoon has ever reverted to Viet Cong control," Gen. Wallace M. Greene Jr. said, despite VC local contacts with the villages.

The commandant made these remarks in a Washington speech May 11 in outlining the Vietnam War to the American Ordnance Association.

*AIR FORCE MIG KILLERS—Air Force Maj. Robert G. Dilger, an F-4C Phantom aircraft commander (right), and his pilot, 1st Lt. Mack Theis (center) explain to 390th Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Hoyt S. Vandenberg Jr., how they forced down a MIG-17 during a dogfight over North Vietnam May 1. The MIG kill was the second for the Da Nang-based squadron in a week and the 36th confirmed Air Force kill.*

# Army Successfully Completes Unique Radar-Mapping Project

Army engineers used radar for all-weather mapping purposes and obtained the first suitable aerial photography of a heavily cloud-covered Panamanian and Colombian area that has defied conventional photography methods for 20 years, DOD has announced.

Radar mosaics and topographic maps will be available by October. Project Ramp (Radar Mapping in Panama) was conducted by Corps of Engineers in 6,600 square miles of southeast Panama and northwest Colombia border area with the cooperation of both governments and several federal organizations.

Project was to determine if topographic maps could be produced from high resolution side-looking radar; to test state-of-the-art radar equipment in a new operational environment; to obtain first such coverage under continuous cloud cover conditions and to establish radar mapping concepts and techniques.

Operational headquarters was Inter-American Geodetic Survey, Ft. Clayton, Canal Zone, whose personnel also placed radar reflectors in remote Darien Province jungle areas.

Corps of Engineers will work toward development of this radar mapping capability as a major topographic research and development goal.

## Freedoms Foundation Announces 1967 Contest For Service Letters

Freedoms Foundations has announced the opening of its 1967 Letters Awards Program for service personnel.

Servicemen and women on active duty have been invited to write letters to the foundation on the 1967 subject of "Freedom—My Heritage, My Responsibility."

Letters must not exceed 500 words and must contain the printed name, rank, military service and home address of the writer. Entries should be mailed to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., 19481 by Nov. 1, 1967.

The top ten winners will be invited to Valley Forge for presentation ceremonies. Top award is $1,000 while 50 second place winners will receive $100 and an additional 50 writers will win $50.

According to the Freedoms Foundation, members of the armed forces and their dependents also can compete for awards in various other categories. More detailed information may be obtained from the foundation's Awards Administration.

## AF Career Conference Ends at Langley AFB

Specific recommendations in career motivation were made by top Air Force personnel officers and field commanders following the four-day Career Motivation Conference at Langley AFB, Va., last week.

Among the conclusions drawn by three panels who studied career management and concepts, officers and enlisted career development were the need for improved promotions, better communication between commanders and the working level, and career counseling.

Lt. Gen. Horace M. Wade, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, pointed up the importance of supervisors maintaining close communications with those under them.

*PROMOTION—Jacob E. Glick, a new Marine brigadier general, receives his stars from Lt. Gen. Alpha L. Bowser, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, during ceremonies at FMF headquarters in Norfolk on May 1. Brig. Gen. Glick will assume command of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade in the Western Pacific.*

## M16A1 Rifle Adopted For General Army Use

The Army has adopted the M16A1 rifle for general use as the best now available, although the M14 will still be used in Europe due to its standard NATO 7.62mm cartridge, according to DOD announcement May 10.

Standardization and redesignation of the experimental XM16E1 came after two-year small arms study and Vietnam battle-testing. The M16, it was concluded, is the best available for some time to come.

It is as good as, or better than, at normal combat range, the M14. The M14 is slightly superior at ranges beyond 300 meters.

The fast-firing and hard-hitting M16 weighs little more than six pounds. It fires 5.56mm (.223 caliber) ammunition.

Scheduled M16 buyers will take into account numbers on hand and requirements of other services, allies, and Military Assistance Program.

## USS John F. Kennedy Set for May 27 Launch

President Johnson, Mrs. John F. Kennedy and Miss Caroline Kennedy are scheduled to participate in launching of the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy, May 27, at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., Newport News, Va.

In making the announcement, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said the President will speak at the ceremony.

The ship will be sponsored by Miss Carolina Kennedy. Her mother will be the matron of honor.

The USS John F. Kennedy (CVA 67) is the second of the "America" class. It is scheduled for commissioning in Fiscal Year 1969.

There are 15 attack carriers now in operation.

The USS John F. Kennedy is 1,051 feet long with a standard displacement of 64,000 tons. Her crew, including the air wing, will number more than 5,000. The keel was laid Oct. 22, 1964.

Cost of construction of the USS John F. Kennedy is approximately $250 million.

## Army to Organize 30 New ROTC Units

Army will increase its officer output by organizing up to 30 new ROTC units the next two fiscal years at selected colleges and universities. This is the first such build-up in 15 years.

More than 150 degree-granting institutions have applied for Army's ROTC program, which is now conducted at 247 college-level institutions in the United States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

The new units will go to educational institutions meeting basic selection criteria and showing the potential to produce highest numbers of top quality officers.

Army's final selection will also be based on geographic considerations assuring a wide distribution of units.

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